



Fact Sheet on the Squibnocket Bridge - Article 28

- Q. Why is there so much hysteria over the need to address the access problem immediately?
- A. Certainly Hurricane Sandy played a role. The access issue to Squibnocket Farms needs to be addressed but it's important to note that there have been virtually zero vehicular access problems and only one break in the power line in the last 23 years (i.e. since Hurricane Bob). A delay to allow exploration of the alternatives for this project is insignificant in the overall scheme of things.
- Q. What is the plan for the existing revetments?
- A. There is no plan as yet. The Town's consultants urged caution on the removal of the revetments and actually recommended new revetments.
- Q. How long did the existing revetments last?
- A. The revetments are still standing and have never failed but they are in the water at high tide and are under assault during storms. They were installed in '91 - '92 and are slated for removal. That means the revetments had a life of 23 years. Did we know this 23 yrs ago?
- Q. Why is this bridge in the picture above shown in the water?
- A. The planned location for the bridge is approximately 75' from the top of the bank (scarp) on one end and 20' at the other. With 1.4' - 2' of erosion per year and sea level rise of 1' by 2050, the future shown in the picture is not difficult to imagine.
- Q. How big is the proposed bridge?
- A. It is 420' in length (from east end of parking lot to the mid point of Money Hill), the same width as State Road, and 19' above sea level.
- Q. How will the bridge end-point at Money Hill be protected? (20' from the edge of the bank.)
- A. We don't know. No plan has been presented. Geologists recommended a new revetment.
- Q. Did the Town's engineers and coastal experts recommend this bridge solution?
- A. No, the Town's geologists were not asked to provide an analysis of the bridge or to discuss other solutions. Their work was limited to a specific set of questions on coastal erosion and the parking lot. Their reports do not include any discussion of the bridge.
- Q. Has the Town or Squibnocket Farms completed any analyses of the alternatives?
- A. No analyses of the alternatives by coastal engineers or geologists have been completed. The Squibnocket Farms team has acknowledged this.
- Q. Why are other alternatives just coming forward now? Isn't this late?
- A. The Beach Committee was a mostly closed process that didn't allow public input.
- Q. What do the technical experts say about a Road Solution?
- A. While a detailed analysis has not been completed, we have consulted with a geologist and with a coastal engineer and they consider the Road Solution to be superior to the hard structure (bridge) and believe it is permit-able.